

Message Text

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JCS/J-1-COL.DZIALO
OSD/I&L:COL. CRAGUN
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ISA/DSAA:VADM. PEET
NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN
NEA/RA:COL. MUNDY
NEA:ALATHERTON

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R 062114Z MAR 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
USCINCEUR
INFO SECDEF
JCS
CSA
CSAF
CNO
CMC
USMTM DHAHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 044978

SECDEF FOR ISA & DSAA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, SA
SUBJ: TOUR ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL
ASSIGNED DUTY IN SAUDI ARABIA

REFS: (A) USCINCEUR 301647Z NOV 73; (B) USCINCEUR 221028Z
DEC 73

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JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

1. COMMENTS IN REFTELS HAVE BEEN OF CONSIDERABLE ASSISTANCE TO DOD IN DRAWING UP THE MAIN LINES OF THE TOUR ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM FOR SAUDI ARABIA.

2. IN ORDER TO PROCEED TO THE NEXT PHASE, ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND ASSESSMENTS ARE REQUIRED AS OUTLINED IN PARAS 4 AND 5 BELOW.

3. CERTAIN BASIC DECISIONS AS REGARDS THE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM HAVE NOW BEEN TAKEN: (A) POLICIES ADOPTED UNDER THE PROGRAM SHALL APPLY TO ALL US MILITARY PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO SELECTED POSITIONS IN SAUDI ARABIA (E.G., SUCH PERSONNEL SHALL INCLUDE THOSE ASSIGNED TO USMTM, US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, USAF PERSONNEL MONITORING PHASE III OF THE F-5 PROGRAM (PEACE HAWK), THOSE CONCERNED WITH THE MODERNIZATION OF THE SAUDI ARABIAN NATIONAL GUARD, DATT, ETC.); (B) SELECTED POSITIONS ARE DEFINED AS THOSE POSITIONS WHICH REQUIRE THE INCUMBENT TO DEAL DIRECTLY, FREQUENTLY, AND ON A CONTINUING BASIS WITH SAUDI COUNTERPARTS (WE ASSUME THIS

IS WHAT IS MEANT BY REFERENCES TO "KEY POSITIONS" IN REFTELS); (C) ALL PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO SELECTED POSITIONS WILL SERVE A 2-YEAR TOUR; (D) THE TOUR LENGTHS OF PERSONS CURRENTLY IN-COUNTRY AND THOSE WHO AT THE PRESENT TIME HAVE ALREADY BEEN SELECTED FOR ASSIGNMENT TO SAUDI ARABIA SHALL REMAIN UNCHANGED; (E) THE PHASING IN OF THE NEW TOUR LENGTH POLICY AS REGARDS SELECTED PERSONNEL WITH DEPENDENTS WILL BE CLOSELY TIED TO THE AVAILABILITY OF IN-COUNTRY HOUSING AND SUPPORT FACILITIES; (F) WE BELIEVE THAT DEPENDENTS OF SELECTED POSITION PERSONNEL SHOULD LIVE IN-COUNTRY RATHER THAN IN SAFEHAVEN AND ADEQUATE IN-COUNTRY SUPPORT MUST BE PROVIDED FOR DEPENDENTS AS WELL AS SPONSORS.

4. FOR AMEMBASSY JIDDA.

BEFORE FURTHER ACTION IS TAKEN AS REGARDS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TOUR ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM IT WILL, OF COURSE, BE NECESSARY TO HAVE A PROPOSAL OR PLAN WHICH WOULD INDICATE WHAT HOUSING ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE NECESSARY
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TO BE FULLY ADEQUATE FOR DEPENDENTS OF THE 102 SELECTED PERSONNEL (THE PLAN SHOULD MAKE MAXIMUM USE OF EXISTING HOUSING, SHOULD ADDRESS THE DESIRABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF ADDITIONAL HOUSING AT RIYADH, JIDDA, TAIF, AND OTHER APPROPRIATE LOCATIONS AND CLEARLY INDICATE WHERE AND HOW MUCH CONSTRUCTION WOULD BE REQUIRED, IF ANY). IT IS, OF COURSE, NECESSARY TO KNOW IF HOUSING OF 102 FAMILIES IN-COUNTRY WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO SAG AND IF SAG

WOULD BE WILLING IN PRINCIPLE TO FUND CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSING AS NEEDED. TO THIS END REQUEST THAT YOU IN CONSULTATION WITH US MILITARY ELEMENTS IN-COUNTRY AND IN COORDINATION WITH USCINCEUR AS APPROPRIATE:

(A) DETERMINE HOW MANY ADEQUATE FAMILY HOUSING UNITS ARE AVAILABLE IN CITIES OF CONCERN IN-COUNTRY;

(B) DETERMINE HOW MUCH ADDITIONAL FULLY ADEQUATE HOUSING COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH RENTAL (AND APPROXIMATE COST INCLUDING O&M) AND OTHER MEANS (LESS NEW CONSTRUCTION) OVER THE NEXT 6 MONTHS;

(C) MAKE AN ASSESSMENT OF WHAT SCHOOLING ARRANGEMENTS THROUGH 12TH GRADE WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO HOW THIS SHOULD BE DONE;

(D) SEE MODA PRINCE SULTAN (OR AN AUDIENCE WITH KING

FAISAL IF YOU DEEM IT APPROPRIATE) TO EXPLAIN OUR INTEREST IN IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF US MILITARY

PERSONNEL IN SAUDI ARABIA AND OUR DESIRE TO STRENGTHEN THE RAPPORT BETWEEN OUR US MILITARY PERSONNEL AND THEIR SAUDI COUNTERPARTS. YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR OUR INTEREST IN HOUSING THE DEPENDENTS OF PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO SELECTED POSITIONS IN-COUNTRY, DETERMINE WHETHER THIS IS ACCEPTABLE TO SAG AND ASK SAG IF IT WOULD BE AGREEABLE IN PRINCIPLE TO FUND NEW CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSING AND ANY NECESSARY SUPPORT FACILITIES IN SUPPORT OF THIS PLAN. IF SAG WOULD BE PREPARED IN PRINCIPLE TO FUND CONSTRUCTION FOR THIS PURPOSE, A MORE DETAILED STATEMENT OF OUR REQUIREMENTS SHOULD BE MADE TO SAG LATER.

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5. FOR USCINCEUR.

REQUEST YOU, IN COORDINATION WITH AMEMBASSY JIDDA, PROVIDE

(A) AN ASSESSMENT OF WHAT ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FACILITIES SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED (PX, COMMISSARY, MEDICAL) TO SUPPORT 102 FAMILIES;

(B) AN ASSESSMENT OF TO WHAT EXTENT AN INCREASE IN COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCE COULD OFF-SET NEED FOR PX AND COMMISSARY FACILITIES;

(C) YOUR VIEWS AS TO DESIRABILITY AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENHANCED ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRAINING (TO INCLUDE SHORT

INTRODUCTORY ARABIC LANGUAGE COURSE AND AREA ORIENTATION)
FOR SELECTED PERSONNEL IN PREPARATION FOR THEIR ASSIGN-
MENTS;

(D) ASSIST AMEMBASSY, AS APPROPRIATE, IN ACCOMPLISHMENT
OF PARAS 4(A), (B), AND (C), ABOVE, AND KEEP JCS SECDEF
AND SECSTATE INFORMED OF PROGRESS AND UNRESOLVED PROBLEM
AREAS.

6. IN MEANTIME DOD/JCS WILL BE STUDYING ADMINISTRATIVE
MEANS TO IMPROVE TOUR ATTRACTIVENESS DRAWING ON
SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED IN REFTEL A. KISSINGER

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